

Chairman Kevin Martin
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Support BellSouth / AT&T Merger, WC Docket No. 06-74

Dear Commissioner:

I am the Executive Director of the Spartanburg Region of the Urban League of the Upstate in Spartanburg, SC. As you know, many of our members are living on the lower end of the socio-economic scale. Any changes that can enhance our economic prosperity are welcome. That is why we are asking you to vote in favor of the AT&T / BellSouth merger.

The merger has the potential to provide great new benefits for African-Americans. For example, we understand that AT&T and BellSouth have discussed with the Commission precedent-setting merger conditions that are unmatched by any other communications provider. First, the newly merged company has proposed a \$10 monthly residential broadband Internet service offering. Second, any current AT&T-BellSouth customer using dial-up service will be offered a free upgrade to DSL, including a free modem. Third, "stand-alone" DSL will be offered to customers at a competitive rate, thereby no longer requiring customers to also purchase voice service. Most importantly, AT&T and BellSouth have made a commitment to deploy high-speed Internet service to rural areas and lower-income living units. All of these provisions will have a tremendous positive economic impact for African-Americans.

Please help grow economic opportunities and improve the quality of life of African-Americans through *affordable* and *universal* broadband services by supporting the AT&T / BellSouth merger. We appreciate your assistance and your leadership.

Sincerely,

cc: Marlene Dortch, Commission Secretary